

Oriental Darter (*Anhinga melanogaster*)

Family: Anhingidae

Conservation Status:

**Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act,
1972:** Schedule IV

IUCN Status: Near Threatened

CITES: No special status

Length: 85-100 cm

Bill: 71-87 mm

Wingspan: 115-130 cm

Weight: 1058-1815 g

Distribution:

The Oriental darter is distributed in Pakistan (Indus Valley), India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei and Indonesia.

Habitat:

Forest, Marine Coastal/Supratidal, Marine Neritic, Wetlands (Freshwater (Inland)) and inhabits shallow inland wetlands including lakes, rivers, swamps and reservoirs. This species can be seen up to 1200 meters of elevation.

Diet: Fish, insects, aquatic reptiles (turtles, snakes) and amphibians (frogs, newts), shrimp, mollusks, sponges, and various plant grasses and seeds in small quantities.

Generation length (years): 9 years

Threats: Habitat loss, human activities near breeding habitats, degradation of foraging areas, hunting and pollution are the main threats for their conservation.



Published by:
**SACON ENVIS Resource Partner on
Wetland Ecosystems including Inland Wetlands**

Sálim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON)

(A Centre of Excellence under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India)
Anaikatty (PO), Coimbatore - 641 108, Tamil Nadu (INDIA)

Poster Concept by: Dr. K. Sankar, Dr. Goldin Quadros, Dr. B. Hemambika, Ms. A. Julffia Begam and N. Mohamed Ibrahim. Design by Ms. A. Julffia Begam

Website: www.sacon.in; www.saconenvnis.nic.in; E-mail: staff.envnis@gmail.com; sacon-env@nic.in; Phone: 0422 - 2203129

Poster No.: SACON ENVIS #33/ 22-03-2019